

## On the identity of *Trilobus lomnickii* Grochmalicki, 1911 (Nematoda, Enoplida: Tobrilidae)

S.J. Tsalolikhin

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*Trilobus lomnickii* is considered a possible synonym of *Brevitobrilus stefanskii* (Micoletzky, 1925).

S.J. Tsalolikhin, Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, Universitetskaya nab. 1, St. Petersburg 199034, Russia.

### ***Brevitobrilus stefanskii* (Micoletzky, 1925)**

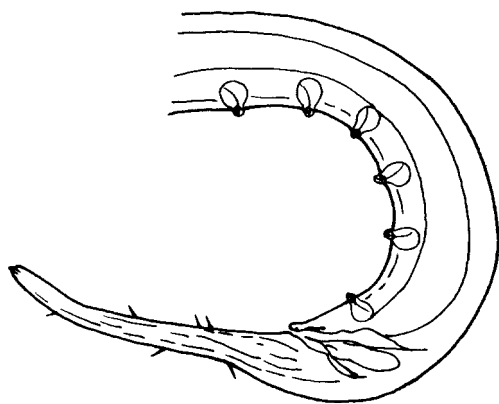
? = *Trilobus lomnickii* Grochmalicki, 1911, **syn. n.**

**Discussion.** *Trilobus lomnickii* Grochmalicki, 1911, was discovered in small water bodies in the vicinity of Lviv (W Ukraine). After its original description, the species was never indicated in any faunal list. For the past nearly 100 years, it was mentioned in the following taxonomic works: Micoletzky, 1921 (as syn. of *T. gracilis* Bastian, 1865); Filipjev, 1929 (as syn. of *T. gracilis*); Andr ssy, 1959 (in the list of species of the genus *Tobrilus*); Meyl, 1960 (species inquirenda); Goodey, 1963 (in the list of species of the genus *Tobrilus*); Andr ssy, 1964 (in the list of species of the genus *Tobrilus* and in the key to species of that

genus); Gerlach & Riemann, 1974 (in the list of species of the genus *Tobrilus*); Tsalolikhin, 1983 (species inquirenda).

Neither the synonymization nor assigning to the species inquirenda category is justified. Careful examination of the text of the original description (Grochmalicki, 1911) shows that *T. lomnickii* can be placed with confidence in the genus *Brevitobrilus* (Tsalolikhin, 1981, 2001). That confidence is based upon both the description and figures of the supplementary apparatus and stoma. It is noteworthy how the author described the structure of supplements ("brodewek" in Polish): "Their shape is voluminous transforming into an elongated neck protruding outside, from which a narrower collar slightly protrudes" (Fig. 1). This description of the supplement coincides perfectly with the shape of the supplement in the genus *Brevitobrilus*. Comparison of characters of *T. lomnickii* with those of *B. stefanskii* (Micoletzky, 1925) (Table 1) reveals that the morphometry of these species is very similar. An exception (for females) is the somewhat longer oesophagus and, respectively, longer body and the relatively shorter tail of *T. lomnickii*. The author noted that *T. lomnickii* was revealed throughout the year; females caught in January were of different sizes, but males were of similar sizes.

As the type specimens of *T. lomnickii* are lost and some doubts on the identity of this species remain, I prefer to consider *T. lomnickii* to be a probable synonym of *B. stefanskii* and retain the latter name. *B. stefanskii* (Micoletzky, 1925) is widely distributed and mentioned in many taxonomic and faunal works; it is the type species of the genus *Brevitobrilus* Tsalolikhin, 1981.



*Trilobus lomnickii*, posterior end of male (after Grochmalicki, 1911).

**Table.** Morphometric characteristics of *B. stefanskii*\* and *T. lomnickii*.

Sex	Species	Body length, $\mu\text{m}$	Body width, $\mu\text{m}$	Oeso-phagus, $\mu\text{m}$	Tail, $\mu\text{m}$	a	b	c	SR	SR/L, %
♂	<i>B. stefanskii</i>	1000-1900 (1386)	27-56 (41)	170-341 (247)	95-145 (114)	21.1-43.5 (32.3)	4.4-7.6 (6)	8.3-17.9 (13.1)	130-254 (174)	10-20 (14)
	<i>T. lomnickii</i>	1300-1850 (1575)	23	260	130	68 (?)	5-7 (6)	12.1	130-150**	10
♀	<i>B. stefanskii</i>	1086-2025 (1479)	40-72 (54)	220-320 (259)	120-222 (170)	25.6-30 (28)	4.3-7.5 (5.6)	6.1-12.7 (8.9)	—	—
	<i>T. lomnickii</i>	1600-2500 (1980)	55	340	150	36	5-7 (5.8)	13.2	—	—

Notes. SR – length of supplement row; means in parentheses. \*Average characteristics for 8 populations from various parts of distribution range (Tsalolikhin, 2001); \*\* Grochmalicki stated the length of supplement row equal to length of tail, i.e. 130  $\mu\text{m}$ , but in his figure the supplement row is longer than tail and equal approximately 150  $\mu\text{m}$ .

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